

## POLITICAL WIRES ARE BEING PULLED

### To-Day's Election of Bishops Has Interest at Fever Heat.

## SWAPPING DEALS ARE MADE OPENLY

### On Sunday Evening Corridors of Hotel Look as if Big Political Convention Were in Progress—All Other Important Conference Matters Are Lost Sight Of.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch] Asheville, N. C., May 15.—Interest in the election of the bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which opens to-morrow at the general conference, is at almost fever heat, and in the corridors of the Battery Park Hotel look as if a big political convention were in progress. The friends of the various candidates are pulling every wire known in the interests of their favorites, and where auxiliaries are needed, every incoming train supplies the deficiency. Second matters, like the question of the Vanderbilt University ownership, the pastoral time limit and the ministerial prohibition of tobacco, have been lost sight of in the universal discussion of episcopal possibilities.

There are seven vacancies to be filled by to-morrow's election. It is the consensus of opinion that the election of bishops, officers and editors will last nearly a week, and several thousand ballot blanks have been ordered.

**Field of Candidates.**

The field of candidates at the present time consists of Rev. J. C. Kille, North Carolina Conference; Rev. W. R. Lambeth, Tennessee Conference; Rev. Collins Denney, Baltimore Conference; Rev. G. H. Rankin, Tennessee Conference; Rev. R. G. Waterhouse, Holston Conference; Rev. James Cannon, Virginia Conference; Rev. C. M. Bishop, Missouri Conference; Rev. W. F. MacMurray, Louisville Conference; Rev. E. D. Muzon, South Texas Conference; Rev. J. E. Dickey, North Georgia Conference; Rev. W. A. Alsworth, Georgia Conference; Rev. J. W. Tabor, North Carolina Conference; Rev. H. C. Tucker, South Carolina Conference; Rev. F. N. Parker, Louisiana Conference; and Rev. F. B. Culver, of the Alabama Conference.

It is generally believed among the members of the conference that the first three names lead in the episcopacy race, and their election is looked for on the first ballot.

Prominent in the "swapping and trading" deals which have been openly conducted in the corridors of the hotel are the delegates of the North Carolina Conference, working for the election of Rev. R. G. Waterhouse. The delegates of the North and South Georgia Conferences are leaving no stone unturned to carry the election of Tennessee, to victory to the end that their supporters will help them to elect the Rev. T. F. Dickey or the Rev. W. A. Alsworth. The latter is looked upon as one of the "dark horses" to be sprung on the conference in case of a deadlock.

It is stated that Texas, with two candidates in the field, is practically certain to get in one of its candidates. The Lone Star State has had only one bishop, Seth Ward, who died in Japan last year.

The chances of the Rev. G. C. Rankin and Rev. E. D. Muzon for election are therefore looked upon favorably. Should both fall "a dark horse" from Texas will be entered to win.

**Secret Ballot.**

The balloting, which will be secret, will begin at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning, after the committee on episcopacy has sent in its report in the case of Bishop Morrison, who last night was exonerated by the special committee on investigation of all charges of maladministration preferred against him.

Three men will be voted for by each delegate on the first ballot, and the voting will continue until three candidates have received a majority of the votes cast. The same procedure will be followed in regard to the other four.

Several things are given careful consideration in the election of bishops, and they are being brought into prominent play at this time. First of all, the fitness of the man for the place and the efficiency of the service he has given the church are considered. In the next place, territorial lines play a considerable part, and these are not often overlooked. It is seldom that a bishop is elected from a conference that in recent years has given a bishop to the church. If he is yet in active service, nor does it often occur that a bishop is elected from a conference that is close neighbor to a conference from which one was elected one quadrennium or two quadrenniums before. This matter of territory is regarded in a large degree, no doubt, to avoid even seeming partiality to conferences and to States in the choice to the episcopacy.

**May Be New Favorites.**

Several members of the General Conference who have been prominently mentioned for months past in this connection have a strong following here, but it is not to be doubted that when the votes are cast there will be one or even more favorites revealed who have not been mentioned so often, but whose following is just as strong. There were remarkable instances of this fact in the General Conference held in Dallas in 1902, and in that held in 1906 in Birmingham. Men who were confidently expected to go into the episcopacy at both those conferences are yet in the ranks of the itinerancy, while men were elected bishops who were less prominently mentioned in that connection.

**Texas in Line.**

Owing to the fact that Bishop Seth Ward, who was elected in 1906 and who died last year, was from one of the Texas Conferences, and the only man ever elected to the episcopacy

## 50 NATIONS REPRESENTED

### From All Over World Delegates Are Coming to Sunday School Convention.

Philadelphia, May 15.—The most cosmopolitan gathering which ever met on this continent is the way the World's Sunday School convention, which opens in Washington next Thursday, is described at the headquarters of the World's Sunday School Association in this city. For more than a year lines from all over the world have been converging in the office of Dr. George W. Halley, the executive head of the organization, and he now announces that more than fifty nations will be officially represented in the 8,000 delegates who will gather at the capital May 19-24.

## NEUTRAL GROUND IS BEING SOUGHT

### Ray of Hope Comes Glimmering Through Factional Fog.

Washington, D. C., May 15.—Whether it is feasible at this late date to try to wipe out Republican factional lines and meet on some common ground that would unite the Insurgents and Regulars in Congress, is the question of greatest moment now agitating the minds of the Republican leaders. It was raised last night at a conference at the White House which was begun at 10:30 o'clock, and continued until 1:15 o'clock this morning.

## SENATE LEADERS ARE OPTIMISTIC

### Now Believed That Regulars and Insurgents Can Get Together and Put Taft's Program Through—May Unite to Defeat Democratic Minority Plans.

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## A QUESTION OF LATIN

### Outcome of Maryland-West Virginia Dispute May Depend on Translation.

Washington, D. C., May 15.—Over the translation of a Latin phrase in the Maryland charter of 1620 has arisen a controversy between Maryland and West Virginia, which has become a question of the boundary line between the two States.

This phrase is: "Deinde vorgende versus meridian ad ultorem diem lumen ripam et eam sequendo quia plaga."

Maryland contends that the boundary is at the high-water mark on the south bank of the Potomac, while West Virginia claims that it is at the low-water mark.

## ENDS IN SHOOTING

### Husband's Jealousy Leads to Injury of Wife and Death of Himself.

Pittsburg, Pa., May 15.—E. A. Weller, a well-known citizen of McKees Rocks, and proprietor of the Island Avenue Hotel in that suburb, shot his wife and himself during a quarrel at the hotel this afternoon. He died fifteen minutes later on the operating table at the Ohio Valley Hospital, and his wife is laying in the city hospital, a painful bullet wound near her left ear.

The quarrel is said to have been prompted by Weller's jealousy. Several months ago, he ejected forcibly from the hotel a man whom he believed had insulted Mrs. Weller. The offender's skull was fractured, but later recovered. This incident is believed by the doctors to have rather unbalanced Weller's mind.

Waller was thirty-six years old and his wife is several years younger. She will recover.

## TELEGRAM FROM TAFT

### President Congratulates Booths on Their Great Work.

New York, May 15.—A telegram from President Taft to the Baltimore Booths on the celebration of the fourteenth anniversary of the founding of the Volunteers, which was sent here to-day at the national headquarters of the Volunteers.

"I congratulate you," wired the President, "on the fourteenth anniversary of your great work, and I sincerely hope that it may go on rescuing thousands of unfortunate."

In his message, Mr. Taft spoke of the convicts in Sing Sing prison, and later gave an account of the history of the Volunteers before a large assembly of the Baltimore Booths, which occupied the pulpit of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church to-night.

## FIVE BOILERS LET GO

### Sunday Explosion Results in Death of Three Men.

Pittsburg, Pa., May 15.—A battery of five boilers exploded at the plant of the Diamond Coal and Coke Company, at Chewtown, Washington county, to-day, killing three men who were in the boiler house at the time. Six others, including employees and residents of the town, were injured, and three dwellings were burned as a result of the accident.

The dead are: William Adamson, electrical engineer, aged forty-five; Peter Walsh, aged forty-five; and Earl Boyd, aged thirty-four.

All three were widowers and leave children. The cause of the explosion is unknown. The force of the explosion shook some of the houses from their foundations, and three dwellings were burned as a result of the accident.

## KING HEARS PEARY

### Discoverer of Pole Greeted by Illustrious Audience.

Rome, May 15.—Commander Robert E. Peary, discoverer of the North Pole, was greeted by an illustrious audience at the Geographical Society. King Victor Emmanuel and the Duke of the Abruzzi, the latter coming from Venice, Marquis di San Giuliano, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and a host of distinguished people were present. Commander Peary made an introductory address in which he paid a high compliment to the Duke of the Abruzzi. The King and the duke congratulated the commander warmly. Marquis Capelle, Minister of the Interior, and the Marquis di San Giuliano, Minister of Foreign Affairs, gave a luncheon in honor of the explorer, which also was attended by Mrs. Peary.

## FULFILLS HIS VOW

### Sea Captain, Saved from Death, Gives Bread to Poor.

Gloucester, Mass., May 15.—Fulfilling a vow made sixteen years ago, when a young man made sixteen years ago, when a sudden shift of wind saved his storm-beaten vessel from driving on a lee shore off Cape Cod, Captain Joseph Mesquita, one of Gloucester's best-known fishermen, to-day gave away to the poor 2,000 loaves of bread. The gift was made at the Church of Our Lady of Good Voyage at a special mass, attended by the captain and his crew of sixteen men.

Then, headed by a band, the shipmates marched in picturesque array from the church to the captain's home, where open house was held until late in the evening.

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## WILL WORK FOR PEACE

### Mohawk Conference Will Draw Distinguished Gathering.

Mohawk Lake, N. Y., May 15.—The Mohawk Lake Conference on international arbitration will hold its sixteenth annual meeting here beginning on Wednesday next and continuing on Friday evening. Acceptance already received from a large number of distinguished gathering, embracing diplomats, statesmen, army and navy men, educators, editors, clergymen and men of prominence in the business world. The deliberations of the conference are always wholly free of restraint as to the views expressed, and some decidedly bold proposals have been in years past been delivered on the Pacific shores of Mohawk Lake. But, however divergent the individual opinions expressed, the platform adopted by the conference as its official expression always covers such matters as the subjects of international law, and its substantially unanimous opinion.

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Kiev, May 15.—The committee appointed April 23 to inquire into the alleged illegal expulsion of Jews residing in Kiev and elsewhere outside the pale, has finished its labors. Eleven hundred and fifty cases have been investigated, and it is expected that the committee will be able to expel an additional thirty, when the list has been completed.

Many Jews were entitled to reside here as merchants of the first guild, but after the publication of Premier Stolypin's order, which instructed the local authorities to expel the Jews who had illegally settled outside the pale prior to August, 1906, pending the restoration of general Jewish rights, they stopped paying the guild fees, and engaged in other operations not entitling them to residence. The expulsion left them without rights.

## FOR LOCAL OPTION

### Democrats Expected to Decline State-Wide Movement a Failure.

Montgomery, Ala., May 15.—The State Democratic convention, which meets here Tuesday, is expected to declare that the Democratic party, after a trial of State-wide prohibition, favors the restoration of local option. Leading supporters of Hon. Emmet O'Neal, who was nominated for Governor in the primary of May 3, assert that 80 per cent of the 810 delegates who comprise the convention are for local option. Montgomery is already filled with probably the largest number of political notables in its recent history.

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## TAFT EXPLAINS FAMOUS LETTER OF EXONERATION

### Admits That Draft Was Prepared by Lawler.

## THIS WAS DONE AT HIS REQUEST

### Draft Did Not Suit Him and Only Brief Portions Were Used in Final Document—He Also Admits Back-Dating, and Tells Why It Was Done.

Washington, D. C., May 15.—President Taft in person to-night took a hand in the situation which had arisen concerning the "inside" history of his letter of September 13, exonerating Secretary of the Interior, Ballinger, from the charges of Special Agent L. H. Glavis, authorizing the dismissal of Glavis.

Over his own signature, he addressed a long letter to Senator Knute Nelson, chairman of the Ballinger-Pinchot investigating committee, setting forth in plain language the sequence of events following his receipt at Beverly on August 18 last of the charges of Glavis.

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